

Remarks

Reconsideration of this Application is respectfully requested.

Upon entry of the foregoing amendment, claims 1, 3-9, 12-30 are pending in the application, with 1, 27 and 28 being the independent claims. Claims 2, 10 and 11 are sought to be cancelled without prejudice to or disclaimer of the subject matter therein. New claims 27-30 are sought to be added. These changes are believed to introduce no new matter, and their entry is respectfully requested. Applicants reserve the right to file a continuation application for protection of any cancelled subject matter.

Based on the above amendment and the following remarks, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner reconsider all outstanding objections and rejections and that they be withdrawn.

Amendments to the Specification

The Specification has been amended to correct a typographical error of an element referred to as "702", in line 2 of paragraph [0069]. It should read --704--.

Allowable Subject Matter

The Office Action indicated that dependent claims 2-9, 14 and 18-26 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form. Claim 1 has been rewritten to incorporate the allowable subject matter of claim 2. Claim 2 is sought to be cancelled. Thus, Applicants submit that claim 1 is now in condition for allowance. As claims 3-9, 14 and 18-26 now depend from claim 1, Applicants submit that these claims are also in condition for allowance.

As the Office Action indicated that dependent claim 14 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form, claim 27 has been added to incorporate the matter of

claims 1, 12, and 14. Claim 28 has been added to incorporate the matter of claims 1, 13, and 14. Applicants submit that claims 27-30 are in condition for allowance.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 102

Claims 1, 10-13, and 15-17 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being allegedly anticipated by Jensen et al. (US 6,292,024) ("Jensen"). Claim 1 also stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Kreifels (US 5,459,355) ("Kreifels"). These rejections have been rendered moot in light of the above amendments incorporating allowable subject matter as indicated in the Office Action.

Conclusion

All of the stated grounds of objection and rejection have been properly traversed, accommodated, or rendered moot. Applicants therefore respectfully request that the Examiner reconsider all presently outstanding objections and rejections and that they be withdrawn. Applicants believe that a full and complete reply has been made to the outstanding Office Action and, as such, the present application is in condition for allowance. If the Examiner believes, for any reason, that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the number provided.

Prompt and favorable consideration of this Amendment and Reply is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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